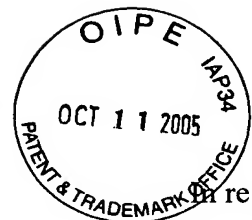


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 040302-0378

In re patent application of

Tomohiro KONDO et al.

Serial No. 10/772,429

Group Art Unit: 3723

Filed: February 6, 2004

Examiner: Hadi Shakeri

For: SURFACE FINISHING APPARATUS AND RELATED METHOD

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 15, 2005, Applicants hereby elect Species A, Figures 1-7, for prosecution in the subject application. Claims 1-10, 26 and 27 are readable on the elected species.

Regarding claim 26, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 26 is generic (in addition to claims 1 and 27) at least because of the PTO's broad interpretation of 112, 6th paragraph limitations, in the MPEP Sections 2182-2184.

Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the non-elected subject matter and/or to receive consideration of claims to additional species as provided by 37 CFR 1.141, upon allowance of any claim that is generic.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Law
Reg. No. 34,371

October 12, 2005
Date

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